

# Chapter 5

## New Changes

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# Chapter 5

**SOME  
BACKGROUND**

# Operator Certification in Wyoming

July 1973	Operator Certification in Statute
Dec 1973	WY Guidelines for Certification
Dec 1974	Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974
1975	Operator Certification Rule, Ver. 1
1978	Operator Certification Rule , Ver. 2
1984	Operator Certification Rule , Ver. 3
1996	SDWA Amendments of 1996
1997	Operator Certification Rule , Ver. 4
2012	Operator Certification Rule , Ver. 5
2018	Current Version, Ver. 6! 4/26/18

# EPA Guideline Requirements

- Guidelines published Feb 1999
- States required to meet minimum standards, structure of the program was up to each state.
- Wyoming's program was the 7th to be approved as “substantially equivalent” to guidelines in 2000.



# EPA Guideline Requirements

- Operators required for C and NTNC PWS only, not for TNC or WW/C systems.
- Facility level based on health risk.
- Operators licensed at/above facility level.
- Certification dependent upon HSE, training, experience, and examination.
- Renewal dependent upon continuing education, renewals every 1-3 years.

# Public Water System Types

- COMMUNITY (C):
  - 15 service connections or regularly provides water to 25 residents year-round, i.e. municipalities, water districts, subdivisions
  - (WSS 35-11-103)
- **MUST HAVE OPERATORS**

# Public Water System Types

- NON-TRANSIENT NON-COMMUNITY (NTNC):
  - 25 of the same persons for more than 6 months of the year, i.e. schools, mines, or office buildings
  - (WSS 35-11-103)
- **MUST HAVE OPERATORS**

# Public Water System Types

## TRANSIENT NON-COMMUNITY (TNC):

- 25 different people per day for a minimum of 2 months out of the year, i.e. resorts, campgrounds, RV parks, etc.
- (40 CFR 141.2)

**NO OPERATORS REQUIRED!!!!**

**Most waterborne disease outbreaks occur in this type of PWS!**

# Wastewater System Types

## PUBLICLY OWNED WW OR C SYSTEMS:

- Collect or treat more than 2,500 gpd of wastewater containing human waste.
- City, county, state, federal facilities, districts, HOAs, etc.
- (WSS 35-11-103)

**MUST HAVE OPERATORS**

# Wastewater System Types

- PRIVATELY OWNED WW OR C SYSTEMS:
- If owned by an individual or corporation, no operator is required!

# Chapter 5

**NEW CHANGES**

# Streamlined Definitions

- Removed definitions which are defined in statute
- Updated and moved definition of “Available” to Section 9 Operator Responsibilities and Section 15 Facility Owner Responsibilities



# Streamlined Definitions

- Added definition for “Lagoon System”
- Added definition for “Well System”

# Available

- **Available:** operator is capable of being on site within 8 hours and shall initiate the appropriate operational and technical actions within 1 hour of being notified that there is a problem at the facility.
- **Operator's responsibility, and**
- **Owner's responsibility**

# Lagoon and Well Systems

- **Lagoon System:** publicly owned wastewater collection and treatment system where primary treatment is a lagoon.
- **Well System:** PWS consisting of well(s), disinfection, and distribution system.
- Added new facility classifications
- Added new certification levels

# Lagoon and Well Systems

- **New facility classifications**
  - District Engineers reviewed and approved the reclassification
  - Switch-over happened in August
  - 300 Well Systems
  - 100 Lagoon Systems
  - Still a few issues

# The Switch Over

**August 26, 2018 end date for old classifications**

**August 27, 2018 start date for new**

Facility Name	Area	Hire Date	End Date	Experience Total
<a href="#">Burns, Town of</a>	1 Lagoon	08/27/2018		0 YR 1 MO
<a href="#">Burns, Town of</a>	1 Well	08/27/2018		0 YR 1 MO
<a href="#">Burns, Town of</a>	1 Distribution	01/28/2009	08/26/2018	9 YR 7 MO
<a href="#">Burns, Town of</a>	1 Wastewater	01/28/2009	08/26/2018	9 YR 7 MO
<a href="#">Burns, Town of</a>	1 Collection	01/28/2009	08/26/2018	9 YR 7 MO
<a href="#">Burns, Town of</a>	1 Water	01/28/2009	08/26/2018	9 YR 7 MO

# The Switch Over

**All operators should be undesignated from the old and designated on the new.**

Classification	Date Classified
1 Well	2/13/2014
Name	License Level
Kellner, Theodore L.	1 Water Treatment Plant
Mandel, Darius M.	1 Water Treatment Plant
McNamar, Toni M.	1 Water Treatment Plant

# Lagoon and Well Systems

## **A Few Concerns Remain**

- Some systems weren't switched over that should have been
- Some systems switched over that should not have been (like Rawlins)
- Designation of operators might need to be cleaned up

# 2 New Certifications

- **New certification levels to pair with new facilities**
  - **Well System** covers well(s), treatment, storage, distribution
  - **Lagoon System** covers sewer system and lagoon.
  - Essentially the same as the old Water and Wastewater Systems certificates



# New Level 1 Certifications

- **Certification requirements:**
  - High School Equivalency (HSE)
  - 6 months operating experience
  - 35 hours of training
  - Passing score on Well System or Lagoon System exam
  - Wyoming residency
  - The **SAME** requirements as all Level 1 certifications.

# Exams for New Certifications

- **Well Systems:**
  - Use ABC Very Small Water System Exam
  - 50 questions
  - DEQ may write a new exam
- **Lagoon Systems:**
  - DEQ/ABC developed exam
  - First offered on October 8, 2018
  - 100 questions

# Other Certification Changes

- Added a “**residency**” requirement, operators must now live in or work in Wyoming
- Limits how “other pertinent experience” can be used. Can no longer be used for **plant experience** on Levels 3 and 4

# New ABC Exams

- New exams came out May 2018
- New exams have 110 questions, only 100 of which will be graded
- You still have 3 hours to take the exams.
- Exams will not have rules questions, but this **DOESN'T** mean you don't need to know them!

# New ABC Exams - No Rules?!

- Why did ABC take regulations out of their exams?!
- Defensibility
- Standardization/Reciprocity
- Because rules change frequently, more emphasis on rules training, less on knowing for exams
- Wyoming added continuing education requirements

# New ABC Need-To-Knows

- New Need-To-Know (NTK) documents look MUCH better!
  - Shows number of questions in each content area
  - Shows how many are recall, application, or analysis questions
  - **Shows number of calculation questions on exam!**

# New ABC Need-To-Knows



**Recall** – tasks at this level typically require the simple recall or recognition of specific facts, concepts, processes, or procedures, with little to no problem-solving involved. You may be asked to identify, illustrate, recall, and/or recognize specific information.



**Application** – tasks at this level will involve some basic problem solving, calculations, or the interpretation and application of data. You may be asked to calculate, categorize, classify, compare, differentiate, explain, specify, translate, and/or apply knowledge.



**Analysis** – tasks at this level may involve higher level problem solving, evaluation, or the fitting together of a variety of elements into a meaningful whole; they will usually require many steps in the thought process. You may be asked to analyze, evaluate, formulate, generalize, judge, predict, and/or use inductive or deductive reasoning to arrive at a solution.

## Exam Content Outline

Number of Questions	Content Area	Job Task Complexity Levels
30	Treatment Process	12 18 0
13	Laboratory Analysis	5 8 0
27	Equipment Operation & Maintenance	11 16 0
10	Source Water Characteristics	4 6 0
20	Security, Safety, Compliance, & Administrative Procedures	9 11 0
100*	Total	41 59 0



This exam includes  
**8**  
calculation questions

\*Your exam may contain up to 10 extra unscored pre-test questions (see *Before You Dive In* for more details).



# New ABC Formula Sheets

- Be sure to use the **new** formula sheets!
  - Use conversions/values listed on formula sheets for best answer.
  - Example: they use  $\pi = 3.14$ , so using your calculator  $\pi$  button will not give the best answer.



# Operator Responsibilities

- Required to maintain training documentation! **Not just 3 years!**
- Ensure that your employment list is current and accurate
- Required to be **available** to all facilities where you are listed as a responsible or substitute responsible charge operator.

# Operator Responsibilities

- **“Available”**: capable of being on site within 8 hrs and shall initiate the appropriate operational and technical actions within 1 hr of being notified that there is a problem at the facility.
- **Notify** your employer or responsible charge operator if you are/will not be available.

# Operator Responsibilities

- **Notify your customers** if anything substantially out of the ordinary is happening with their water or wastewater!
  - Lift station out?
  - Chlorinator on the fritz?

# Facility Responsibilities

- Ensure that a responsible charge or a substitute responsible charge operator is available.
- Is this a new requirement?

**What??!!**

# Facility Responsibilities

**Warning to designate responsible charge and/or substitute responsible charge operators**

Classification		Date Classified		District Engineer	
1 Well		2/13/2014		Paul Lohman	
ID	Name	License Level	Renewal Hours	Responsible Charge	Sub. Responsible Charge
<a href="#">10239</a>	Kellner, Theodore L.	1 Water Treatment Plant	27.00	Y	N
<a href="#">10570</a>	Mandel, Darius M.	1 Water Treatment Plant	12.00	N	N
<a href="#">11877</a>	McNamar, Toni M.	1 Water Treatment Plant	0.00	N	N
<a href="#">Designate</a>					

Responsible Charge and/or Substitute Responsible Charge have not been designated.

# Facility Responsibilities

- Click on 'Edit', then either Responsible Charge or Substitute Responsible Charge checkbox, click 'Update'

Email	bryant@hstmail.com	Address	PO Box 235	53
Phone Number	(3			
Edit designation				
Mandel, Darius M.				
Contract Operator: <input type="checkbox"/>				
Responsible Charge: <input type="checkbox"/>				
Substitute Responsible Charge: <input type="checkbox"/>				
Designation Date: 8/27/2018				
Termination Date:				
Comment:				
<input type="button" value="Update"/> <input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>				

Classification		District		
1 Well		SE		
D	Name		Contract Operator	Options
239	Kellner, Theodore L.	1 Water	N	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Undesignate</a> (H)
570	Mandel, Darius M.	1 Water	N	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Undesignate</a> (H)
877	McNamar, Toni M.	1 Water	N	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Undesignate</a> (H)

[esignate](#)

Responsible Charge and/or Substitute Res

Copyright

erved

# Facility Responsibilities

**You should not have had to back-date anyone's experience while doing this. If you had to, please let me know!**

Email	bryant@kellner.com	Address	PO Box 235	53
Phone Number	(3			
Edit designation				
Mandel, Darius M.				
Contract Operator: <input type="checkbox"/>				
Responsible Charge: <input type="checkbox"/>				
Substitute Responsible Charge: <input type="checkbox"/>				
Designation Date: 8/27/2018				
Termination Date: <input type="text"/>				
Comment: <input type="text"/>				
<input type="button" value="Update"/> <input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>				

Classification		District
1 Well		SE
D	Name	
239	Kellner, Theodore L.	1 Water
570	Mandel, Darius M.	1 Water
877	McNamar, Toni M.	1 Water
<a href="#">esignate</a>		
Responsible Charge and/or Substitute Res		
Copy		

Contract Operator	Options
N	<a href="#">Edit Undesignate</a> (H)
N	<a href="#">Edit Undesignate</a> (H)
N	<a href="#">Edit Undesignate</a> (H)

erved

# Facility Responsibilities

- Must immediately replace responsible charge operators
- Shall not allow uncertified or inadequately certified individuals to operate or maintain any facility!



# Contractor Responsibilities

- Certified operator clause has impact on “paper operators”!
- If you are caught, DEQ can enforce!
- Revoke or suspend operator’s certifications
- Enforce against facility

# Contractor Responsibilities

- Owner can request permission to have contract operator come less often than once per week **IF the facility is:**
  - Simple
  - Remote or
  - Automated
- Does not give owner permission to do “stuff” without the operator!

# Certificate Renewal

- **No changes here!**
- Still need **24** hours of training per certificate!

# Continuing Education

- Still need 8 core hours per renewal
- **Also need 2 hours of rules training per renewal!**
- A total of 10 hours out of the 24 are now “spoken” for!

# What the Heck Are Rule Hours?!

- Rule hours are core hours
- They are trainings on RULES.
- SDWA, WYPDES, Construction permitting, Chapter 5, etc.

# Core and Rule Hour Counter

Certificate Number	Certification	Expiration Date	Will Renew	Status
1WS07S-06	1 Water Treatment Plant	12/31/2018	Yes	Active <a href="#">History...</a>

## • Training Information

Training Name	Training Date	Area	Hours	
2017.105 - Maintenance & Repair Techniques - C	04/20/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2017.099 - Corrosion Control Chemical Safety	04/20/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2017.096 - New Things Coming REPEAT - C	04/20/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2017.083 - EPA Rules Update REPEAT - C	04/19/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2017.075 - Great Rates and the bottom line	04/19/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2017.074 - What the future holds	04/19/2017	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2017.072 - Pumps from A to Z - C	04/18/2017	Water	8.00	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2016.102 - Issues in Water - C	04/22/2016	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2016.097 - Nitrate/Nitrite and Radionuclides - C	04/22/2016	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2016.074 - Hydraulic Control Valves - C	04/21/2016	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
2016.062 - Oper Water & Wastewater System	04/20/2016	Water	4.00	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">(H)</a>
Total Hours:			27.00	
Total Core and Rules Hours (min. 10 hrs required for renewal):			18.00	
Total Rules Hours (min. 2 hrs required for renewal):			4.50	

[Apply Training To Renewal...](#)

# What happened here?!

## • Certificate Detail

[HOME](#)[OPERATOR](#)[FACILITY](#)[TRAINING](#)[PROFILE](#)[LOGOUT](#)

## • Certificate Detail

Certificate Number	Certification	Expiration Date	Status
4W16-087	4 Water Treatment Plant	12/31/2018	Active

## • Training Information

Training Name	Training Date	Area	Hours	
000.000 - New Chapter 5	12/27/2018	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit</a>
018.102 - Forest to Tap Version 2	05/09/2018	Water	1.00	<a href="#">Edit</a>
016.262 - 2016 Workshop for Small Water and Wastewater Systems - C	02/15/2018	Water	6.00	<a href="#">Edit</a>
011.227 - 2011 Annual Water and Wastewater Conference	02/10/2018	Water	16.00	<a href="#">Edit</a>
00.860 - Chlorine Handling and Emergency Response	12/15/2017	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit</a>
			Total Hours:	27.00
			Total Core and Rules Hours (min. 10 hrs required for renewal):	7.00
			Total Rules Hours (min. 2 hrs required for renewal):	0.00

[Apply Training To Renewal...](#)



# When Adding Training, Use Blue Search Bar!

- 2016 Workshop for Small Water and Wastewater Systems - C	02/15/2018	Water	6.00	<a href="#">6.00</a>
- 2011 Annual Water and Wastewater Conference	02/10/2018	Water	16.00	<a href="#">16.00</a>
- GIS Class			10.00	<a href="#">0.00</a>
- Chlorine Handling			2.00	<a href="#">2.00</a>
- ABPA Backflow			12.00	<a href="#">12.00</a>
- Lead and Copper			1.00	<a href="#">0.00</a>
- WPCA Activated			30.00	<a href="#">30.00</a>
- 2013 Industrial			16.00	<a href="#">16.00</a>
- Flow Movers			0.50	<a href="#">0.50</a>
- Motor Special			0.50	<a href="#">0.50</a>
- ABC Conferen			30.00	<a href="#">30.00</a>
- Distribution Sy			40.00	<a href="#">40.00</a>
Training Record				<a href="#">Training</a>

Select a training area. Then do either, but NOT both, of the following:

- Enter and select the training in the blue bar.
- Manually enter the training details below.

-- Training Area -- ▾

Title:

Provider:

Location:

Hours:

Date:

Comment:



# Ensure That Class Numbers are Used!

Certificate Number	Certification	Expiration Date	Will Renew	Status
1WS07S-06	1 Water Treatment Plant	12/31/2018	Yes	Active <a href="#">History...</a>
• Training Information				
Training Name	Training Date	Area	Hours	
2017.105 - Maintenance & Repair Techniques - C	04/20/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2017.099 - Corrosion Control Chemical Safety	04/20/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2017.096 - New Things Coming REPEAT - C	04/20/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2017.083 - EPA Rules Update REPEAT - C	04/19/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2017.075 - Great Rates and the bottom line	04/19/2017	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2017.074 - What the future holds	04/19/2017	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2017.072 - Pumps from A to Z - C	04/18/2017	Water	8.00	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2016.102 - Issues in Water - C	04/22/2016	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2016.097 - Nitrate/Nitrite and Radionuclides - C	04/22/2016	Water	1.50	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2016.074 - Hydraulic Control Valves - C	04/21/2016	Water	2.00	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
2016.062 - Oper Water & Wastewater System	04/20/2016	Water	4.00	<a href="#">Edit (H)</a>
Total Hours:			27.00	
Total Core and Rules Hours (min. 10 hrs required for renewal):			18.00	
Total Rules Hours (min. 2 hrs required for renewal):			4.50	
<a href="#">Apply Training To Renewal...</a>				

# Recertification - Within 3 Months

- If your certificate expires due to lack of or insufficient continuing education:
  - Have 3 months to take training without penalty.
  - **MUST add training to account and renewal and notify me prior to COB on last business day in March.**

# Recertification- After More Than 3 Months

- **This part remains the same!**
- There is a penalty if you wait longer than 3 months to renew:
  - Must make up any missing hours of training.
  - Must take an **ADDITIONAL 8 hours** of training for each year expired!
  - Must **retake your exam!**

# Enforcement - Violations

- No responsible charge operator (RC)
- No substitute responsible charge operator (SRC)
- Stagnant operators

# Enforcement - C and C

## **Conference and Conciliation Efforts**

- Begins immediately
- Continues until the violation is resolved or DEQ decides you need something more...

# Enforcement - LOVs

## Letter of Violation (LOV)

- Contain a compliance schedule
- Not intended to be comfy or easy to meet
- If not followed...

# Enforcement - NOVs

## **Notice of Violation (NOV) with an Order**

- Will require that you hire a contract operator to achieve compliance.
- If you do not...

# Enforcement - Prosecution

**DEQ will refer  
your violation to  
the State  
Attorney General  
for prosecution.**



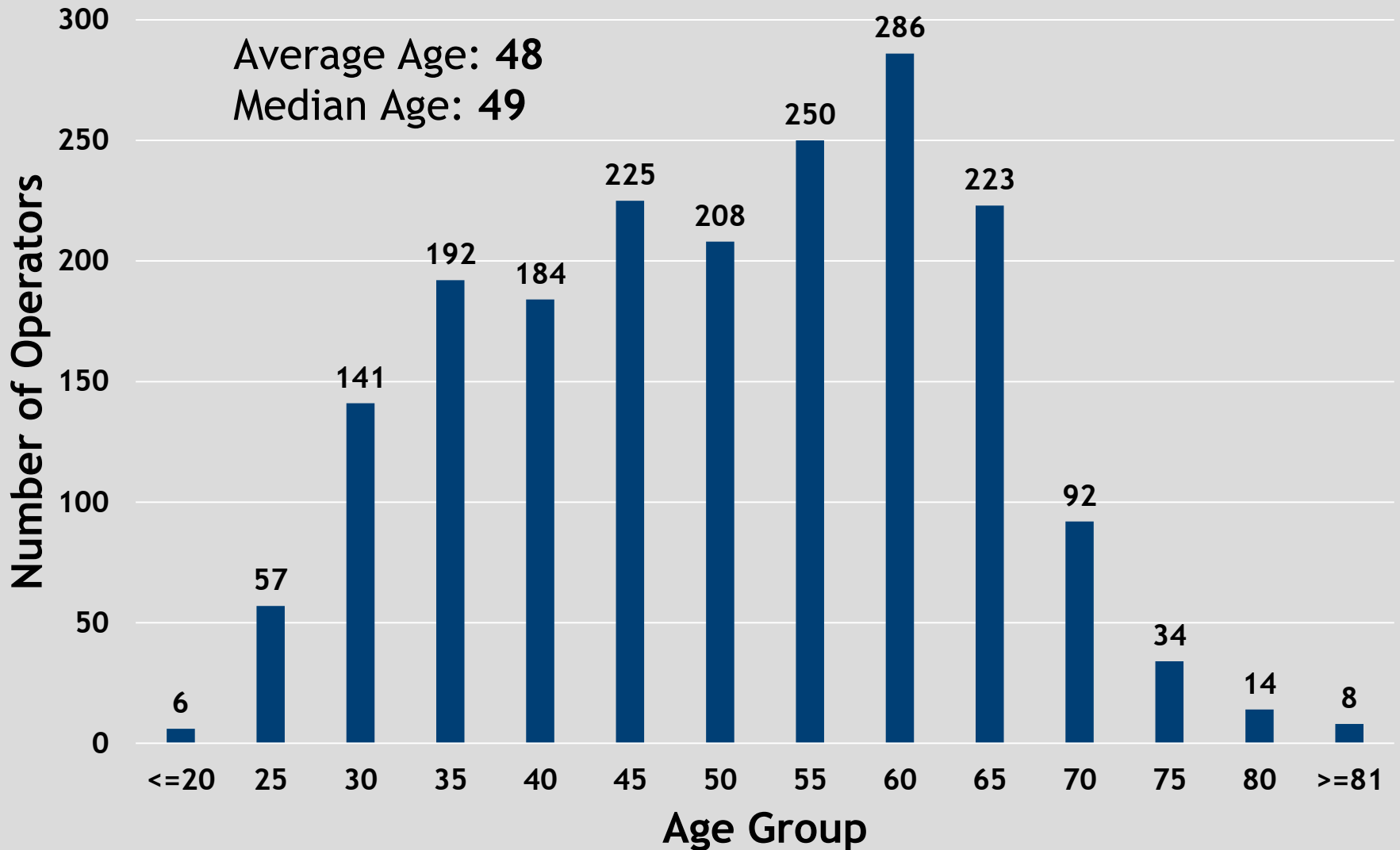
# Email Notifications

**Our list serve emails  
come from:**

**WYODEQ@public.govdelivery.com**

# Age Distribution of Wyoming Operators

## October 2017



# Age Distribution of Wyoming Operators

## September 2019

Average Age: **49**

Median Age: **54**

Number of Operators

